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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/615,572	
	Filing Date	July 8, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Robert R. Hunter	
	Art Unit	2857	
	Examiner Name	Carol S. TSAI	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	8	Attorney Docket Number	TREND - 00101

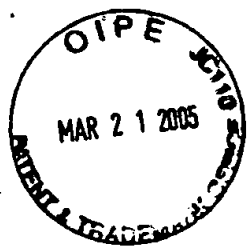
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	Dechert LLP, P.O. Box 10004, Palo Alto, CA 94303-0961	
Signature		
Printed name	Justin Boyce	
Date	03/15/2005	Reg. No. 40,920

Express Mail mailing label No. xxxxxx	<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING</b>		Facsimile No. xxxxx
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Robert R. Hunter

Docket No. : TREND - 00101

Serial No. : 10/615,572

Art Unit: 2857

Filed: July 8, 2003

Examiner: Carol S. TSAI

Title: Method and Apparatus for Reading and Controlling Utility Consumption

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

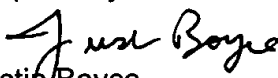
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
  - ☒ Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ☐ a \$220.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
  - ☐ Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
  - ☐ a \$220.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(d)(2)(ii), and
  - ☐ a \$130.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1)  
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)
- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 50-2778**(Order No. TREND - 00101). A copy of this sheet is enclosed for accounting purposes.

(✓) Applicant submits herewith the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 of which Applicant is aware and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), nor as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, nor an admission that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

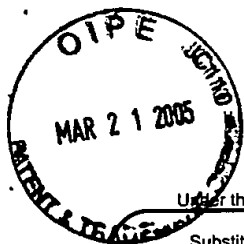
( ) A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 156(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Justin Boyce

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

4

of

8

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/615,572
Filing Date	July 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. Hunter
Art Unit	2857
Examiner Name	Carol S. TSAI
Attorney Docket Number	TREND - 00101

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US- 5,002,226	03/26/1991	L.W. NELSON	
	AB	US- 5,684,710	11/04/1997	EHLERS et al.	
	AC	US- 5,696,695	12/09/1997	EHLERS et al.	
	AD	US- 6,134,655	10/17/2000	G.A. DAVIS	
	AE	US- 6,362,745	03/26/2002	G.A. DAVIS	
	AF	US- 6,619,055	09/16/2003	K.L. ADDY	
	AG	US- 6,639,893	10/28/2003	CHIKENJI et al.	
	AH	US- 6,728,646	04/27/2004	HOWELL et al.	
	AI	US- 6,747,571	06/08/2004	FIERRO et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 5 of 8

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/615,572
Filing Date	July 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. Hunter
Art Unit	2857
Examiner Name	Carol S. TSAI
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00101

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AJ	US- 4,216,384	08-1980	HURLEY, Frederick A.	
	AK	US- 5,721,659	02-1998	YOUNG, Danny J.	
	AL	US- 5,721,934	02-1998	SCHEURICH, Christoph	
	AM	US- 5,805,458	09-1998	MCNAMARA et al.	
	AN	US- 6,226,600	05-2001	RODENBERG, et al.	
	AO	US- 6,301,674	10-2001	SAITO, et al.	
	AP	US- 6,311,105	10-2001	BUDIKE, Jr., Lothar E.S.	
	AQ	US- 6,476,728	11-2002	SAKAKIBARA, Ken	
	AR	US- 6,483,291	11-2002	BHATEJA et al.	
	AS	US- 6,772,052	08-2004	AMUMDSEN, et al.	
	AT	US- 6,826,695	12-2004	HANSEN, Rick L.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

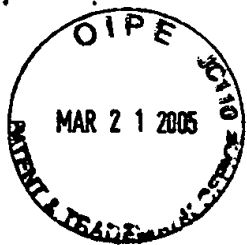
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:** Robert R. Hunter

**Docket No. :** TREND - 00101

**Serial No. :** 10/615,572

**Art Unit:** 2857

**Filed:** July 8, 2003

**Examiner:** Carol S. TSAI

**Title:** Method and Apparatus for Reading and Controlling Utility Consumption

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
~ CERTIFICATION ~**

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I, the person signing below, certify

( ) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. (37 CFR 1.97(e)(1))

(✓) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

The person making this certification is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- ☐ supplied by the inventor(s)
- ☐ supplied by an individual designated in §1.56(c)
- ☒ in the attorney's file

Respectfully Submitted,



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